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17 January, 6-9 February and 25 and 26 April 2007
Item 2 of the provisional agenda*
Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Institutional arrangements to follow up the World Summit on the Information Society

Representation of and consultation with non-governmental organizations

List of non-governmental organizations and civil society entities recommended for accreditation to participate in the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development

Note by the Secretariat

1. In its resolution 2006/46, the Economic and Social Council approved supplementary arrangements for representation of and consultation with non-governmental organizations in the Commission on Science and Technology for Development.

2. Non-governmental organizations and civil society entities not in consultative status with the Council but that received accreditation to the World Summit on the Information Society may participate, upon approval by the Council in a timely manner, on an exceptional basis and without prejudice to the established rules of the United Nations, in the next two meetings of the Commission. This provision is based on the understanding that in the meantime, the aforementioned organizations and entities will apply for consultative status with the Council in accordance with existing rules and procedures and that, in accordance with Council resolution 1996/31, the Council would invite the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations to consider such applications, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations, and to do so as expeditiously as possible.

* E/2007/2.

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3. Non-governmental organizations and civil society entities not in consultative status with the Council that were accredited to the second and third meetings of the Preparatory Committee for the Geneva phase and the first to third meetings of the Preparatory Committee for the Tunis phase of the World Summit on the Information Society (see WSIS/PC-2/DOC/9, WSIS/PC-3/DOC/7, WSIS-II/PC-1/DOC/3, WSIS-II/PC-2/DOC/10 and WSIS/PC-3/DOC/4 and Add.1),[1] are hereby recommended for accreditation to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in accordance with Council resolution 2006/46. The accreditation of those non-governmental organizations and civil society entities to the Commission would be valid for a period of two years from the time of the adoption by the Council of a decision allowing those entities to participate in the work of the Commission, specifically in follow-up to the Summit, for that period.

[1] See http://www.itu.int/wsis/documents/.

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Institutional arrangements in the follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society

Representation of and consultation with business-sector entities

List of business-sector entities recommended for participation in the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development

Note by the Secretariat

1. Taking into consideration the essential role played by the business sector, especially in the development of technology and in the deployment of infrastructure (e.g. fixed and mobile telephony, cable and satellite), the World Summit on the Information Society decided to allow for the accreditation of individual business-sector entities[1] in its work. The arrangements for accreditation to the Summit[2] were agreed upon by Governments on 5 July 2002 at the first meeting of the Preparatory Committee (PrepCom-1) of the Geneva phase of the Summit. The arrangements allowed for the accreditation of non-governmental organizations, civil society and business-sector entities, applying the same conditions to the non-governmental organizations and civil society entities and to the business-sector entities. The document also stated that non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and sector members of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) were, as a rule, automatically accredited to the World Summit on the Information Society and its preparatory process.

* E/2007/2.

[1] The World Summit on the Information Society was the second world summit to allow accreditation of individual business-sector entities; the first one was the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002.

[2] The final report of PrepCom-1 of the Geneva phase, document WSIS/PC-1/DOC/0011 (rev.1), annex 3, is available at the following website address: http://www.itu.int/wsis/documents/doc_single.asp?lang=en&id=14.

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2. In its resolution 2006/46 of 28 July 2006, the Economic and Social Council adopted supplementary arrangements for representation of and consultation with business-sector entities in the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development. The Council decided that, on an exceptional basis, without prejudice to existing rules of procedure, business-sector entities including the private sector, in particular those that had received accreditation to the World Summit on the Information Society, could participate, upon approval by the Council in a timely manner, in the work of the Commission in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Council.

3. Business-sector entities that were accredited to participate in the World Summit on the Information Society and its preparatory process, including at PrepCom-2 and PrepCom-3 of the Geneva phase and PrepCom-1, PrepCom-2 and PrepCom-3 of the Tunis phase, and that are listed in the relevant annexes of documents WSIS/PC-2/DOC/9, WSIS/PC-3/DOC/7, WSIS-II/PC-1/DOC/3, WSIS-II/PC-2/DOC/10 and WSIS/PC-3/DOC/4 and in section B of WSIS/PC-3/DOC/4 (add.1),[3] are hereby recommended for participation in the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development. In addition, it is proposed that ITU sector members[4] would also benefit from a standing invitation to participate in the work of the Commission.

[3] WSIS documents are available at the following website address: http://www.itu.int/wsis/documents/doc_multi.asp?lang=en&id=280/956/1242/1427/1890/1900.

[4] ITU-sector members are listed at the following website address: http://www.itu.int/cgi-bin/htsh/mm/scripts/mm.list?_search=SEC&_languageid=1.